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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1954

TYLDESLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council: Councillor J.H. Ellison, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor S. Hall.

Clerk of the Council: Richard F. Wilson, Esq.,

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor S. Churm.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor J. Taylor, J.P.

Members:

Councillor G. Berry.
" J. Derbyshire, J.P.
" M. Devlin.
" J.H. Ellison, J.P.
" M. Fallon.
" H. Gorse.
" B. Greenhalgh.
" Mrs. J. Grundy, C.C.
" S. Hall.
" A. Higham, J.P.

Councillor G.E. Hilbert.
" H. Kerfoot.
" Mrs. J. Latham.
" F. Longworth, C.A.
" J.E. Nally.
" Mrs. H.A. Parkinson, J.P.
" J. Rowland.
" H. Scotson.
" W.H. West.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

T. Patton Sewell, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., V.U.Manc. Terminated appointment 10/5/54

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 10/5/54)

also

Divisional Medical Officer, Health Division No. 11
Lancashire County Council

Divisional School Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council

Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Leigh.

Medical Officer of Health - Atherton Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health - Horwich Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health - Westhoughton Urban District.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

K. Hilton, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

R. Colley, Cert. S.I.B. Terminated appointment 20/11/54

CLERK

Mrs. H. Westwell. Terminated appointment 31/3/54
Miss M. Neary. (from 29/3/54)

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Health Department,
Town Hall,
TYLDESLEY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Tyldesley for the year 1954 together with statistics relevant thereto.

STATISTICS.

According to the Registrar General's mid year estimate the population of the district has shown a slight increase, being 17,700 as against 17,690 the previous year and 17,830 in 1952.

During the year under review 262 births occurred, a decrease of 31 on the previous year. 6 babies were still-born. Relating these figures to the population the Live Birth Rate is 14.5, a decrease of 1.7 on the previous year, and the Still Birth Rate 23, a drop of 1 on the year 1953 Rate.

Unfortunately 8 babies died during their first year giving an Infantile Mortality Rate for the year of 31.

It is pleasing to record that no mother died as a result of childbirth.

The total number of deaths (from all causes) is 21 more than in the previous year, being 191 and 13 less than in 1952 when there were 204 deaths. As in previous years the main cause of death has been disease of the heart and blood vessels. Relating the number of deaths to the population as a whole the Crude Death Rate for the year is 10.8, greater by 1.2 than in 1953.

HEALTH SERVICES.

The personal health services have again been provided in the district by the Lancashire County Council, through its Divisional Health Administration Scheme, as the Local Health Authority. The essential information in relation to these services is given in Section B of this Report. Should you require further details I would refer you to my Annual Report as Divisional Medical Officer.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of infectious disease showed no unusual trends, although Whooping Cough retains its prevalence of previous years. The absence of Diphtheria should not be lost sight of, as this happy state can only be retained if parents continue to arrange for their children to be immunised - preferably in their first year of life. A combined prophylactic against both Whooping Cough and Diphtheria is now available and should prove a great boon to children who receive it.

A surprising feature, is the fact that 28 cases of the 34 notified cases of Scarlet Fever apparently required admission to hospital. This is surely to be deprecated, as it is known that the risk of complications is actually higher if a patient is nursed in hospital rather than in its own home. Only in exceptional circumstances, mainly due to poor housing conditions should it be necessary to consider hospitalisation. Of course, apart from any epedemiological reason, it is important to consider the psychological implications of the admission of young children to a hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Once again throughout the year, the sanitary circumstances of the district have been kept under close supervision. Special attention has been paid to food and water supplies; to housing and sanitation; and to smoke abatement.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

In conclusion I would like to place on record my sincere appreciation of your continued interest and support and encouragement throughout another year, and, at the same time, thank the chief officials, their respective staffs, and my own public health staff in particular for their real help and advice on many matters.

Yours sincerely,

E. Taylor.

Medical Officer of Health.

Area in Acres	5,174
Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1954)	17,700
Population, census 1931	19,432
Population, preliminary census 1951	18,096
Number of inhabitated houses (census 1931)	4,465
Number of inhabitated houses (end of 1954) according to Rate Book	5,459
Rateable Value	£89,875
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 361

VITAL STATISTICS

Calculated on a population of 17,700

		Male.	Female.	Total.
BIRTHS:				
Live Births -	Legitimate.	135	114	249
	Illegitimate.	2	5	7
		137	119	256
Still-Births -	Legitimate.	5	1	6
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		5	1	6

Total registered Births for 1954 - 262
Total registered Births for 1953 - 293

LIVE BIRTH RATE (Per 1,000 of Population).

For Year 1954	14.5
For Year 1953	16.2
For 5 year average 1949 - 1953	14.9
Decrease in 1954 on 1953	1.7
Decrease in 1954 on 5 year average.	0.4
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales 1954	15.2

STILL BIRTH RATE (Per 1,000 Population Births).

For Year 1954	23
For Year 1953	24
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales 1954	23.4

DEATHS.

		M.	F.	Total.
INFANTILE:	Legitimate.	3	5	8
	Illegitimate.	-	-	-
		3	5	8

MATERNAL: Nil

OTHER CAUSES:

	M.	F.	Total.
Cancer	21	15	36
Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Other Causes	78	76	154
Total registered deaths for 1954:	100	91	191
Total registered deaths for 1953:	98	72	170

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE (Per 1,000 Live Births).

For Year 1954	31
For Year 1953	14
For 5 year average 1949 - 1953	39
Increase in 1954 on 1953	17
Decrease in 1954 on 5 year average	8
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1954	25.5

TOTAL MATERNAL MORTALITY (Live and Stillbirths).

For Year 1954	Nil
For Year 1953	Nil
For 5 year average 1949 - 1953	Nil
Increase in 1954 on 1953	Nil
Decrease in 1954 on 5 year average	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1954	0.69

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

For Year 1954	0.06
For Year 1953	0.20
For 5 year average 1949 - 1953	0.23
Decrease in 1954 on 1953	0.14
Decrease in 1954 on 5 year average	0.17
Tuberculosis Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1954	0.18

CRUDE DEATH RATE.

For Year 1954	10.8
For Year 1953	9.6
For 5 year average 1949 - 1953	12.3
Decrease in 1954 on 1953	1.2
Decrease in 1954 on 5 year average	1.5
Crude Death Rate for England and Wales for 1954	11.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

8 deaths were reported compared with 4 during 1953 and 10 in 1952. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate for the year 1954 of 31 compared with 14 in 1953. It will be seen that 6 of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period and were primarily associated with prematurity.

The causes and ages were as follows:-

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGE IN MONTHS.		
	0-1.	1-3.	3-6.
Asphyxia	1	-	-
Prematurity	1	-	-
Hydrocephalus	-	-	1
Cardiac Failure	3	-	-
Pulmonary Atelectasis	1	-	-
Meningocele	-	1	-
	6	1	1

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1954

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis - Respiratory.	1	-	1
2. Tuberculosis - Other Forms	-	-	-
3. Syphillitic Disease.	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria.	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
8. Measles.	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	1	1
10. Cancer of Stomach.	6	4	10
11. Cancer of Lung, Bronchus.	4	-	4
12. Cancer of Breast.	-	2	2
13. Cancer of Uterus.	-	2	2
14. Cancer of Other Sites.	11	6	17
15. Leukaemia.	-	1	1
16. Diabetes.	-	-	-
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system.	15	13	28
18. Coronary Disease, Angina.	14	9	23
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	1	2	3
20. Other Heart Disease.	10	21	31
21. Other Circulatory Disease.	9	7	16
22. Influenza.	2	1	3
23. Pneumonia.	1	2	3
24. Bronchitis.	8	5	13
25. Other Disease of Respiratory System.	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	2	2	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformation.	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	7	11	18
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	-	-	-
34. All Other Accidents.	-	-	-
35. Suicide.	2	-	2
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-
T O T A L S : -	100	91	191

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1954 WITH

ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS

DISEASES	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths	AGE INCIDENCE								
				Under one Year	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	34	28	-	-	7	13	9	2	2	1	-	-
Measles	19	-	-	1	9	7	2	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	106	1	-	10	48	33	15	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	21	10	1	1	13	1	3	-	-	1	1	1
Erysipelas	9	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	201	53	1	12	79	55	29	3	6	4	6	7

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1954

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1954	7	4	3	-	1	-	-	-
1953	9	7	-	1	-	-	-	-

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance Service.

Leigh Ambulance Station ... ...) Tel. No. Leigh 939
Atherton Ambulance Station ... ...)

Care of Children - Childrens' Act 1946.

Childrens' Committee - Lancashire County Council, Area No. 9.

Area Childrens' Officer:-

Miss J.W. Cole, M.A.

89 Railway Road,

LEIGH. Tel. No. LEIGH 1658

Clinics.

1) Antenatal.	Elliott Street Clinic, 2nd and 4th Friday pm. of each month,
2) Artificial Sunlight	Alder House Clinic, Atherton.
3) Diphtheria Immunisation	At County Clinics as required.
4) Maternity & Child Welfare.	(i) Astley Centre-Thursday pm. (ii) George St. Centre, Tyldesley Tuesday pm.
5) Ophthalmic.	Elliott Street Clinic, Thursday pm.
6) Orthopaedic.	Elliott Street Clinic, 2nd Wednesday pm. of each month.
7) Post-Natal.	Elliott Street, Clinic, 2nd and 4th Friday pm. of each month.
8) School Health and Minor Ailments.	Elliott Street Clinic, Tuesday and Friday am. of each month.

9) Speech Therapy.	Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh by appointment.
10) Orthoptic	Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh by appointment.
11) Tuberculosis	The Infirmary, Leigh.
12) Venereal Disease	(1) Civic Centre, Bolton. Male and Female Mon. Wed. Friday. 9-30am. to 12-30pm. 2-0pm. to 7-30pm. (2) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. Males: Wed. 2pm. to 7pm. Females: Wed. 2pm. to 4pm. 4-30pm. to 7pm.

Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Two Health Visitors/School Nurses employed in the District by the Lancashire County Council.

Home Help Service.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council. Applications to Divisional Health Offices, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service.

Male and Female district nurses provided by the Lancashire County Council.

Hospitals.

1) General	Leigh Infirmary, Bolton Infirmary &c.
2) Infectious Diseases	Astley Sanatorium, Hulton Lane Fever Hospital &c.
3) Maternity	Bolton and District General Hospital. Davyhulme Hospital. St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester &c.

Laboratory Facilities.

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries and at Monsall Fever Hospital.

Maternity Homes.

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.
Haslam, Haverscroft and Heaton Grange Maternity Homes, Bolton.

Midwifery Service.

Two full-time domiciliary midwives provided by the Lancashire County Council.

Moral Welfare.

Local Worker:-

Miss A. Rigby,
186 Chapel Street, LEIGH. Tel. No. LEIGH 1061.
(Council for Moral Welfare Work)

Nursing Homes.

None in the district.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council.

Welfare Services.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange, Leigh and Bolton District General Hospital Annexe, Farnworth. No hostels.

X Ray Facilities.

At the General Hospital of the Regional Board, Leigh, Bolton and Wigan.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

CHICKEN POX.

This disease is not notifiable in the district. The disease is mainly of importance because of its tendency to resemble smallpox.

DIPHTHERIA.

As last year no case or carrier was notified. Continuation of immunisation is still essential if the disease is to be eradicated.

DYSENTERY.

Twentyone cases notified, ten were admitted to hospital the cases were widespread and sporadic. Control depends upon the understanding and co-operation of all who handle food and drink.

ENCHEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No acute case notified.

ERYSIPELAS.

Nine cases were notified.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of this disease were reported during the year. As in the case of dysentery, control of food poisoning is dependent upon the understanding and co-operation of all who handle food and drink.

MALARIA.

No case reported.

MEASLES.

19 cases were notified as against 124 in the previous year. Again no case was serious, all were nursed at home, and there were no deaths. The disease is notifiable under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

2 cases.

PARATYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were reported.

PNEUMONIA.

4 cases of acute pneumonia were reported.

POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis).

3 cases occurred in young children and were admitted to hospital.

POLIOENCEPHALITIS.

No case.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

3 cases notified.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 34. 28 cases were admitted to hospital, although none was serious in character.

SMALLPOX.

No confirmed case occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS.

11 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were reported during the year.

TYPHOID FEVER.

No cases were reported.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The venereal diseases are not notifiable. Control is difficult depending as it does on other factors as well as purely medical. Treatment is in the hands of the Regional Hospital Board.

WHOOPING COUGH.

This year there were 106 cases, as against 62 in 1953 and there were no deaths. The increase in the number of cases further underlines the need to introduce immunisation against this debilitating, and sometimes lethal, disease of child life.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The major portion of the district is urban in character, concentrated chiefly in the north and centre, surrounded by an area of agricultural land.

The main industries are coal mining, cotton spinning and engineering, with a small number in agriculture.

None of the above industries appears to have given rise to any significant increase of injuries or disabilities of any occupational character throughout the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district's water supply is obtained in bulk by agreement with Manchester Corporation, and enters the Council's main at Clegg Lane, Stirrup Brook and Vicars Hall Lane, The Supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality during the year.

5448 dwelling houses, housing a population of 17,650 persons are supplied with water from public mains. 11 houses with a total of 50 occupants draw supplies from private wells or springs. These are chiefly situated in isolated parts of the district, and the dwellings are in connection with small holdings of agricultural land.

49 new houses have been connected to the town's water mains.

22 bacteriological examinations of town's main water were made during the year. The results of 21 were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. The service pipe, tap &c. where the unsatisfactory sample was obtained were chlorinated and cleansed and a follow up sample was satisfactory.

Water mains have been extended to the extent of 160 lineal yards of 4"main, off Sale Lane, 340 lineal yards of 4"main and 200 lineal yards of 6"main on the Shakerley Housing Site.

The average daily consumption for domestic purposes is 482,720 gallons, representing 27.3 gallons per haad per day for a population of 17,700.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewage is conducted from the town by a main outfall sewer of 24 inches diameter to the Sewage Disposal Works at Morleys Hall, A stley. Alumino ferric is added to the sewage which then passes through precipitation and sedimentation tanks and circular percolating filters. The effluent from the filters before discharge into the Black or Moss Brook is passed through humus tanks.

There have been no new works of sewage disposal or sewerage during the year. All new houses have been connected to the sewer.

Continued mining subsidence in the area causes concern due to consequent flooding of main sewers, necessitating continual supervision during rainy periods. To alleviate these conditions the Councils consulting engineers are preparing a scheme for the main outfall and sewage works.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The figures below show the sanitary accommodation of the district for the present year compared with the year 1953.

	1954	:	1953
Number of privy middens	49		58
Number of closets attached to the above middens	71		87
Number of pail closets	45		41
Number of trough closets	7		15
Number of waste water closets ...	134		169
Number of fresh water closets ...	5928		5847

Included in the above figures of 49 privy middens are 35 which are situated in the areas not served by a sewer, chiefly farms and isolated dwellings.

The number of privy closets converted to fresh water closets was 7; 4 privies have been converted to pail closets and 25 waste water closets have also been converted to fresh water closets.

Grants are made by the Council for closet conversions on the following scale:-

£9 or half the cost which ever is the lesser			for privy and pail conversions
£8	-do-	-do-	waste water closet
£6	-do-	-do-	trough closets

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of house refuse is maintained throughout the district by means of three side loading 10 c.yd. vehicles, and refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping. The amount of refuse collected and so disposed of during the year was approximately 6000 tons.

Tipping has continued on the Mount Pleasant site, Shakerley, during the year, and the opening of the culvert and provision of an open cut through the roadway was completed during the year.

In the early summer the refuse tip is treated with an insecticide dressing, which is continued weekly throughout the summer months, and has been found to be effective in preventing nuisance from flies and crickets.

Scavenging, gully emptying and snow removal are undertaken by the Surveyor's Department.

The provision of free dustbins has continued, and 680 bins were supplied by the department during the financial year.

The demand for waste paper increased at the end of the year and the price rose from £6-10-0 to £7-0-0 per ton, with prospects of a further increase to stimulate collection.

The collection of kitchen waste increased by some 5 tons during the year, despite the fact that licenced private collectors are now free to collect from any premises.

The following are particulars of material salvaged during the year:-

Waste Paper	. . . .	38 tons	0 cwts.	1 qr.	£249.	15s. 6d.
Kitchen Waste	. . . .	41 tons	2 cwts.	2 qrs.	£171.	19s. 4d.
Tins	. . . . .	4 tons	5 cwts.	1 qr.	£ 4.	5s. 3d.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Number of Inspections and reinspections during the year	2841
Number of notices served	180
Number of notices abated	162
Number of statutory notices served	154

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Infectious Diseases &c	49
Public Health Act, visits and re-visits	1363
Council Houses	181
Drainage	95
Markets	39
Refuse collection and disposal	24
Slaughterhouses	357
Housing Act	22
Rodent Control	25
Food Preparing Premises	136
Shops	60
Factories	39
Closet conversions	37
Keeping of animals	11
Foodshops &c	90
Sampling	71
Smoke Abatement	168
Accumulations	38
Tents, vans and sheds	33
Miscellaneous visits and interviews	536

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The emission of grit and dust from a colliery in the area and from one outside the area has been a source of annoyance and concern for some time, and meetings and deputations have been held to mitigate these nuisances. As a result it has been arranged for the colliery in the area to electrify the fan for the supply of air to the colliery, at an early date, so reducing the demand on the boilers.

Various arrangements have been made at the colliery outside the area for the suppression of dust, among them being the provision of water sprays at dust producing points, covering in of the belts and discharge points, and the extension of the air lock where coal is tipped from waggons into the washery.

The change over from hand firing to automatic chain grate stokers has been completed at one colliery, and the emission of smoke is now reduced to a minimum.

168 smoke observations and grit tests have been taken during the year.

FACTORIES.

The following tables give the number of inspections made regarding factories and the defects discovered &c.

PREMISES	NO. ON REGTR.	NO. OF INSP.	NO. OF WRITTEN NOTICES	NO. OF OCCPRS. PROSCTD.
Factories without mechanical power.	3	5	-	-
Factories with mechanical power.	44	58	1	-

	FOUND.	REMEDIED.	REFERRED TO H.M.INSP.	REFERRED BY H.M.INSP.	NO. OF CASES IN WHICH PROSEC. WERE INSTITD.
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	1	-	-
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences.	4	8	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	2	2	-	-	-
T O T A L:	10	14	1	-	-

There is one outworker engaged in the district in making up wearing apparel.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

17 premises (3 Council houses and 14 others) were disinfested during the year with a 5% DDT solution sprayed on to walls, woodwork &c. which treatment appears to give satisfactory results.

Household effects and furniture are examined before removal to Council houses and treated where necessary, advice and instructions are given to tenants in appropriate cases of the habits of vermin and the necessary measures to prevent re-infestation.

RATS AND MICE.

A Rodent Operator is employed part-time in this work and the Ministry's recommended methods employed. All premises concerning which complaints are made are visited either by your Sanitary Inspector or the Rodent Operator, and treatment carried out where necessary. A charge is made for business premises, but a free service is provided for private dwelling houses.

The various properties and premises in the Council's occupation are regularly inspected and treated where necessary and sewers are treated twice yearly.

431 visits have been made to private dwellings, business premises and local authorities properties in connection with rodent infestation.

In addition two sewer treatments have been undertaken involving the inspection and baiting of manholes on three consecutive days.

SCHOOLS.

All the schools are provided with an adequate water supply. Trough closets at one school have been converted to fresh water closets, leaving one school still provided with trough closets. The playgrounds of two schools have been resurfaced but several schools are not yet provided with a satisfactory yard surface.

Meals for school children are prepared and cooked at central premises situated at the Senior Boys Modern School, Garrett Hall Road, and conveyed in insulated containers to the various schools by motor vans.

HOUSING

The majority of houses in the area are of 4 roomed cottage type, lacking in the main such amenities as hot water supply and baths. Although materials are easier to obtain, prices remain high and this together with the high cost of labour make repairs still difficult to obtain.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects.	425
Number of inspections made for the purpose.	1325
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	3
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.	180
Number of dwelling houses where defects were remedied without formal notice.	162
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	154
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.	109

Demolition orders were made on 6 houses and in each case the tenants were rehoused by the Council.

Closing Orders were made on 7 houses and 6 of the tenants were rehoused by the Council.

11 houses were erected during the year by private persons and 38 by the local authority.

There were 357 applications for Council houses at the end of 1954 and 36 for bungalows. Approximately 225 applications are from sub-tenants.

Information extracted from the Council house application register shows the number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year to be 18 comprising 32 families and 113 persons. 6 new cases of overcrowding were reported during the year and 19 cases concerning 147 persons relieved.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954.

This act came into operation on the 1st August,1954 and up to the end of the year one application for a certificate of disrepair was made and granted.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one common lodging house in the district licenced annually with accommodation for 66 persons, which is conducted in a satisfactory manner.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The supervision and inspection of dairy farms is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The following milk licences have been issued during the year:-

Dealers Licences to use the Special designation "Sterilised"	67
Dealers Licences to use the Special designation "Pasteurised"	28
Dealers Licences to use the Special designation "Tuberculin Tested"	21
The number of registered distributors operating from own farms in the district	2
The number of registered distributors operating from dairies in the district	9
The number of registered distributors operating from premises outside the district	4
The number of registered distributors operating from shops in the district other than dairies	56

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

On 1st July meat was freed from control and 6 private slaughterhouses were licensed for the slaughter of animals.

Slaughter of horses for human consumption ceased in this area at the end of June.

During the year 26 licences were issued to persons to slaughter animals for human consumption.

Condemned meat is sent to a nearby cat and dog food manufacturer, where it is sterilised and canned for animal food.

357 visits have been made to slaughterhouses in the district and the carcases of the following animals inspected 899 cattle, 238 cows, 49 calves, 2302 sheep, 221 pigs and 136 horses.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep. & Lambs	Pigs.	Horses
Number killed	899	238	49	4105	221	136
Number inspected	899	238	49	2302	221	136
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-						
1) Whole carcases condemned	-					
2) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	129	132	-	96	2	27
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	14.4	55.5	-	2.3	0.9	20
Tuberculosis only:-						
1) Whole carcases condemned	1	1	-	-	-	-
2) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	52	59	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.9	25.2	-	-	1.8	-

613 visits have been made to food premises and the following foodstuffs were condemned during the year:-

NATURE.	QUANTITIES.			
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Cooked Meats &c.		1	0	11
Cheese				13
Semolina				6
Meat (including 2 whole carcases)	3	19	2	22
Miscellaneous (canned foodstuffs 92 tins)		1	0	3
Horseflesh		2	0	16
Butterbeans				22
Oranges			2	16
	4	4	3	25

FOOD POISONING.

No cases were reported during the year.

FOOD PREMISES.

Shops and food preparing premises have been kept under observation and regularly inspected during the year, to ensure compliance with the Clean Food Byelaws made under the Food and Drugs Act,1938.

ICE CREAM.

Premises used for the sale or manufacture of ice cream have been visited regularly. There are now two premises registered for the manufacture and 42 for the sale of ice cream.

37 samples of ice cream were obtained and submitted to the methylene blue test of which 29 were grade 1, 7 grade 2, and 1 grade 3.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Sampling under the Food & Drugs Act,1938 is undertaken by the Lancashire County Council, and during the year 90 samples have been obtained by the Inspector, 48 being milk and 42 others.

One of the samples other than milk was found to be slightly adulterated, and the manufacturers communicated with.